

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ryan Fox on 10-25-11.

The application has been amended as follows:

Replace claim 1 with the following:

-- A method for providing a radio frequency identification (RFID) from a switchable mobile communications device capable of RFID communication and voice call communication, the method comprising:

receiving, by the mobile communications device, from an RFID reader external to the mobile device, an instruction to transmit first RFID transponder data in a format compatible with said RFID reader;

switching a transceiver of the mobile communications device from a first state to a second state upon reception of said instruction, the transceiver configured to output voice call signals in the first state and to output RFID transponder signals in the second state; and

outputting the first data by the transceiver in the second state, the transceiver outputting the first data as an RFID transponder signal in the format compatible with said RFID reader.—

Replace claim 3 with the following:

-- The method of claim 1, wherein said first RFID transponder data comprises a selected one of a security key and an identifier.—

Replace claim 5 with the following:

--The method of claim 1, wherein said first RFID transponder data comprises an identifier, and said identifier comprises a selected one of a social security number, a driver's license number, an affinity program account number, and a credit card number.—

Replace claim 6 with the following:

-- The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises facilitating the user in selecting the first RFID transponder data from a plurality of RFID transponder data using the mobile communication device.—

Replace claim 7 with the following:

-- The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises facilitating provision of the first RFID transponder data to the mobile communication device.--

Replace claim 8 with the following:

-- The method of claim 7, wherein said facilitating of the provisioning of the RFID transponder data to the mobile communication device includes facilitating provision of at least a signaling attribute associated with the outputting of the RFID transponder data in the format compatible with said RFID reader.—

Replace claim 9 with the following:

-- The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:
monitoring for proximal presence of the RFID reader by the mobile communication device; and

on detection of the RFID reader by the mobile communication device, outputting by the transceiver second RFID transponder data as a second radio frequency signal, the outputting emulating output of the second RFID transponder data by an RFID transponder of a passive type.--

Replace claim 11 with the following:

-- The method of claim 9, wherein said first RFID transponder data and second RFID transponder data are the same data.—

Replace claim 13 with the following:

-- A method for providing a radio frequency identifier (RFID), from a switchable mobile communications device capable of RFID communication and voice call communication, the method comprising:

monitoring for proximal presence of a proximal RFID reader external to said mobile communication device by said mobile communication device, the mobile communication device having a transceiver configured, to output, in a first state, RFID transponder data in a format compatible with said RFID reader upon the mobile communications device determining proximal presence of one or more RFID readers, the transceiver being also configured to output, in a second state, a voice call signal for transmission at least in part over a wireless network; and

on detection of the RFID reader, outputting, by the transceiver, the RFID transponder data as a radio frequency signal, said data being output in said format employed by the RFID reader.--

Replace claim 14 with the following:

-- The method of claim 13, wherein said monitoring comprises sensing for one or more probing radio frequency signals of the one or more RFID readers by the mobile communication device.—

Replace claim 18 with the following:

-- The method of claim 13, wherein the method further comprises facilitating provision of the RFID transponder data to the mobile communication device.--

Replace claim 19 with the following:

-- The method of claim 18, wherein said facilitating of the provisioning of the RFID transponder data to the mobile communication device includes facilitating provision of at least a signaling attribute associated with the outputting of the RFID transponder data in the format employed by the RFID reader.—

Replace claim 21 with the following:

-- A switchable mobile communication device capable of RFID communication and voice call communication, the mobile communication device comprising:

a transmitter configured to transmit a radio frequency signal, the transmitter comprising a first signal processing section and a second signal processing section, the first signal processing section configured to output voice call signals in a first radio frequency range and the second signal processing section configured to output RFID transponder signals in a second radio frequency range;

a storage medium to store a first data and instructions to:

monitor for proximal presence of one or more RFID readers external to the mobile communication device; and

operate the transmitter to switch between the first and second signal processing sections to selectively: (a) output first RFID transponder data as said RFID transponder signals in a format employed by a proximal RFID reader, in response to detection by the mobile communication device of the proximal RFID reader, and (b) output a voice call signal for transmission over a wireless network; and

a processor coupled to the transmitter and the storage to execute the instructions.--

Replace claim 22 with the following:

-- The device of claim 21, wherein said first RFID transponder data comprises a selected one of a security key and an identifier.—

Replace claim 23 with the following:

-- The device of claim 22, wherein said first RFID transponder data comprises a security key, and said security key comprises a door key.--

Replace claim 25 with the following:

-- The device of claim 22, wherein said first RFID transponder data comprises an identifier, and said identifier comprises a selected one of a social security number, a driver's license number, an affinity program account number, and a credit card number.—

Replace claim 26 with the following:

-- The device of claim 21, wherein the instructions are further designed to facilitate the user in selecting the first RFID transponder data from a plurality of RFID transponder data, and instructing said output.--

Replace claim 27 with the following:

-- The device of claim 21, wherein the instructions are further designed to facilitate provision of the first RFID transponder data to the mobile communication device.—

Replace claim 28 with the following:

-- The device of claim 27, wherein the instructions are further designed to include with said facilitating, provisioning of at least a signaling attribute associated with the outputting of the first RFID transponder data in the form of a radio frequency signal.—

Cancel claim 29

Re claims 30 and 31, line 1 of each claim: Replace “29” in line 1 of each of claim 30 and 31, with -21--.

Replace claim 33 with the following:

-- A switchable mobile communication device capable of radio frequency identifier RFID communication and voice call communication, the mobile communication device comprising:
a transmitter configured to transmit a voice call signal in a first operational state and a RFID transponder signal in a second operational state;
a storage medium to store a first data and instructions to switch the transmitter between the first and second operational states to selectively (a) monitor for proximal presence of a proximal RFID reader, and on detection of the proximal RFID reader, output RFID transponder data as an RFID signal in a format employed by the RFID reader, and (b) transmit a voice call signal to another user of another communication device at least in part over a wireless network;
and
a processor coupled to the transmitter and the storage to execute the instructions.--

Replace claim 35 with the following:

-- The device of claim 33, wherein said RFID transponder data comprises a security key.—

Replace claim 38 with the following:

-- The device of claim 33, wherein the instructions are further designed to facilitate provision of the RFID transponder data to the mobile communication device.—

Replace claim 39 with the following:

-- The device of claim 38, wherein the instructions are further designed to include with said facilitating, provisioning of at least a signaling attribute associated with the outputting of the RFID transponder data in the form of a radio frequency signal.--

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-28 and 30-40 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record fails to teach the limitations of the transmitter/transceiver configured to output/transmit voice calls in a first state and RFID transponder signals in a second state wherein the transceiver/transmitter switches states, and outputs the RFID transponder signal/data in the RFID reader compatible format.
4. The Examiner notes the art of 20040069852 20040171373 teaches voice and RFID functionality, but the RFID functionality is of an RFID reader, and not a tag/transponder, and therefore does not teach the outputting of transponder tag data/signal in a format accepted/compatible with an RFID reader (or as recited in the claims), since the references teach RFID reader functionality and therefore not RFID tag/transponder functionality via outputting of RFID tag data/signals and also does not support the detection/monitoring/sensing for RFID readers and outputting the data in response thereto. Additionally, US 20070030124 teach switching an antenna between an RFID interrogator/reader and phone by sharing an antenna.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL WALSH whose telephone number is (571)272-2409. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9am-7pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Paik can be reached on 571-272-2404. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/DANIEL WALSH/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2887